

# SIERRA

May 1964

CLUB BULLETIN



. . . the last snow-wreath melts,  
    myriads of growing points push eagerly  
through the steaming mold  
    the birds come back, new wings fill the air  
    and fervid summer life comes surging on . . .

JOHN MUIR  
in *The Mountains of California*

## Storm in the Redwoods

CONSTERNATION is a mild word to describe what has been felt in conservation circles and in the public press over a series of recent events in the battle between redwoods and freeways. Seemingly conflicting remarks by California Governor Edmund G. Brown were at the center of the storm.

The Sierra Club became involved by name when the Governor was reported by Associated Press as saying that the route the Sierra Club favored for locating a freeway around Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park would "take a wall of redwoods." The route would not, the Sierra Club directors knew, do anything of the kind. But they also knew that the Governor was dependent upon others for his information and that he had been misinformed.

The vital question now is one of public faith. The public has spent large sums for parks and is determined to guard that park system—to do so even when capable and cost-conscious highway engineers prefer use of the parks as less expensive or shorter routes for freeways.

On March 30, shortly after a conservation-highway meeting in his office, the Governor visited the redwoods and issued a statement that brought praise from conservationists and almost all the press: "As long as I am Governor of California," he stated, "not a single, solitary redwood [in state parks] will be cut down for a freeway."

But there was counterpressure from within and without. The highway authorities can be presumed to have wanted to abide by the choice of route they liked best—through essential parts of the Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, as well as through the National Tribute Grove in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park a few miles to the north. The Highway Commission and some Beaches and Parks authorities, for example, had already agreed on a compromise that would, if constructed, sacrifice part of the National Tribute Grove. And pressure from the highway people could also be discerned before the public hearing then imminent on the Prairie Creek routing.

On May 1, the Governor issued a press release which became known as the "tree-for-a-tree" proposal. This tree-trade was criticized by a number of California's leading newspapers, and the Save-the-Redwoods League stated that such a formula could not apply to dedicated memorial redwood groves being held in trust by the state. The San Francisco *Chronicle* suggested that a more popular solution would be "to cut down one highway engineering chieftain for every redwood taken by a freeway—and, in accord with ancient tribal custom, bury him mounted regally upon his favorite bulldozer."

On May 12, there was a press conference on redwoods. (The Sierra Club office has the full transcript.) Governor Brown acknowledged that the redwood state parks constitute "a public trust of unique value." Referring to the "tree-for-a-tree"



Freeway bridge over the South Fork of the Eel River at Founder's Grove in Humboldt Redwood State Park. Photograph by Philip Hyde.

proposal, the Governor said he "did not intend that this statement would apply to the integrity of a redwood forest or anything of great beauty. . . . But there are parts and places in the State of California," he explained, "where you take a fringe route, you'll have to take out some trees, and they can be exchanged. . . ."

There was still need for clarification because so much depended upon the Governor's choice of terms. What did he mean by integrity? And just how much was a fringe? We have our own ideas about what the Governor meant, and give our interpretation below. We believe this interpretation will be shared by the Californians as well as by the citizens all over the United States who have already contributed to the redwood parks and will contribute still more to them in the years to come if Congress passes the Land and Water Conservation Fund Bill.

There exists in these redwood parks a public trust of unique value established when individuals and organizations all over the state and nation contributed private money for the setting aside of memorial redwood groves to be held in per-

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## Sierra Club Bulletin

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... TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT  
THE NATION'S SCENIC RESOURCES ...

*THE SIERRA CLUB*,\* founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of mountain regions. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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COVER: Lost Canyon in Sequoia National Park by Howard Laws. The text is taken from a 1911 edition of the Muir work published in New York City by The Century Company.



*"Where can a child adventure  
on his own today, explore,  
move out cautiously  
into the world  
the way all living things  
are meant to grow and learn?  
How can he escape  
the stultifying inhibitions  
of parents and society?"*  
Photographs by Rondal Partridge

## Keeping the Child In Touch With the Earth

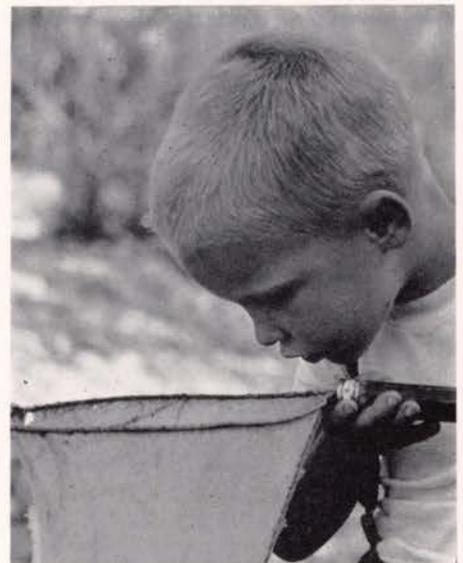
By Alfred G. Etter

**A** CELEBRATED EXPLOIT of Hercules was his victory over Antaeus. Antaeus, the son of Terra, the Earth, was a mighty giant and wrestler, whose strength was invincible so long as he remained in contact with his mother Earth. He compelled all strangers who came to his country to wrestle with him, on condition that if conquered (as they all were) they should be put to death. Hercules encountered him, but finding that it was of no avail to throw him since he always rose with renewed strength from every fall, he lifted Antaeus up from the earth and strangled him in the air.

Like Antaeus, a conservation-wise people must be in touch with the earth. Yet our new urban way of life, like Hercules, threatens to separate us from our

source of strength. Through no fault of its own, our new generation is being born and brought up in virtual ignorance of the natural world. I am afraid that in the near future our plea for the importance of wildlife, natural landscape, and natural principles of land-use may well fall on indifferent, if not deaf ears. In a recent talk with a friend about this he said that in his mind the teaching of ecology to city-bred people presented as many problems as trying to teach atomic physics to the average citizen. It is like trying to get someone to visualize a forest when he has never seen a tree.

Does this mean that we conservationists must fold up our tents and disappear into the desert? In my weaker moments I must confess I have felt so inclined.



There seems to be no way to stem the tide of urbanization nor to change the city into a place which preserves some of the inspiration of nature. The human irruption shows no sign of stopping until it has destroyed its environment. I have heard figures that say we are bulldozing 3000 acres of metropolitan land every day of the year. These are the corner lots, the woods across the street, the old farms, and the river bottoms where the kids used to play. Wildland is divided into smaller and smaller tracts, developed, posted, fenced and polluted. Potential park areas are disappearing rapidly.

Yet the more we need parks and playgrounds, the more we destroy the ones which exist. A city needs a new through-way. Where does it go? Through the park. State parks are being converted into recreation areas, and recreation areas are becoming neighborhood playgrounds, and playgrounds are becoming parking lots. The Metropolitan Parks Authority of the Detroit area reports constant demands for more intensive use of children's playgrounds, sandpiles, shuffleboards, etc. The latest thing in Detroit playgrounds is described thus: "A multi-colored fence, with sections alternately bright red, blue, yellow, and orange, surrounds the area. Enveloped by children stands the 'fun monster.' Concrete slabs have been bolted together to form the sides and top. Standing just beyond is a pinto horse, complete with painted saddle, bridle, tail, and tractor-tire legs. Youngsters are crawling over and through gaily painted lengths of sewer pipe." I compliment the imagination of the creators of these facilities, but I cannot help thinking of Professor Leopold's remark, "I am glad I shall never be young without wild country to be young in."

This is the change that conservation has to face. We have gone from wilderness to fun monsters, and yet we have greater resource problems to solve than ever before. Wilderness is self-perpetuating. Civilization has to be maintained. That is the crux of the problem, and these children aboard the tractor-tire horse are going to be faced with the job. Can they do it? What can we do in conservation-education to help them?

Leopold yearned for the development of an "ecological conscience" as an ultimate goal. Today, 20 years later, we not only have no ecological conscience, but we have no conscience at all among a

surprising group of our citizens. More and more as parents struggle with problems of security and competition, they relax their moral concepts to include very mushy interpretations of what moral behavior is.

A respect for life was implied in the concept of an "ecological conscience." How much respect for life is taught today? In our feverish way, we incite students to go into science, and what do we teach them of life? How to dissect it, change it, kill it, use it—everything but how to appreciate it.

An "ecological conscience" also implies a knowledge of life. What knowledge do people today acquire of life? Buried in an avalanche of semi-authoritative information illustrated with thousands of well-done photographs of every-



thing from lava flows to coon bones, they feel they are authorities themselves—or at least well informed. Yet they have no ability to observe, and no sensitivity to understand. Evolution to them is something interesting that stopped with the ape man. It bears no relation to their responsibility on earth, or the workings of their societies.

What then do we do? Should we take some high school students off the shelf and train them at government expense for a career in conservation? Should we make a conservation course a requirement of every curriculum? Should we offer extension courses to teachers or write more books on conservation experiences for children, or leadership guides, or put on more T.V. programs? Maybe

we should put more emphasis on conservation projects in youth programs. Some of these approaches have been tried and found wanting. Others have shown some merit, but most of them, like legume seed sown without innoculum, may not produce the results we want.

There is no way on earth that an academic or an entertainment approach can ever strike enough sparks to keep a conservation fire going through the difficult times that face us. We have to get down to the fundamental problem of keeping Antaeus, that is the child of earth, in touch with the earth. The chief effect of our modern expansionism and materialism is to wall the child up in the city, suburb, or T.V. room, to protect him from experience by transporting him by car and bus, to make his haunts inaccessible by barriers of traffic, to contaminate his swimming hole with waste, and to divert him with activities and the necessity for conforming. Our chief objective, therefore, should be to release the child into contact with nature as often, and as unconsciously as possible. Too often in the past while we have fostered our attention on fish and wildlife we have neglected the child and the youth. Conservationists are too conservative. It is time we thought in more radical terms—the trends of the time require it.

Putting the child in touch with the earth will do more than just gain appreciation for conservation objectives. Society as a whole will benefit. Frank Lloyd Wright said, not long before his death, "I think distinctly the teenager problem is a problem of over-gregarious life. Life not with the green acres, not life where the wind blows and where a man is free to indulge his instincts according to his better nature, but where everything in him is likely to be developed by all these pressures that are exerted upon youth in the name of Education; he doesn't know freedom. . . . I never went to school a spring term in my life. The farm was so much more fascinating and instructive."

Where can a child adventure on his own today, explore, move out cautiously into the world the way all living things are meant to grow and learn? How can he escape the stultifying inhibitions of parents and society? I have a few suggestions. I am not an authority on how to put these ideas into action. I will leave that to someone else more practical than I. But I like to dream.

Our first objective might be to counteract the ever-present campaign for more security, put less stress on length of life and more on quality, less on financial security for ourselves and more on the health of the human community. This is my most dreamy suggestion. It is a bit like telling the deer to get out of the cedar swamp in mid-winter. They would rather starve than face the cold. Still, perhaps we can cut down some aspen, leave some slash, and entice them out. If the parents won't come out, maybe the youth will. They are the ones who face desperation. We already have our childhood experiences under our belt (which, for all too many of us, means pretty well protected). Look around and you will still find youth trying to adventure, and you will also find in them a good bit of contempt for the kind of trap which we have created for them. We can encourage this contempt in a healthful way, but we must be prepared to offer them something more than mere disillusionment. In conservation we have a philosophy of constructive action, of change and improvement. It is not hard to sell this philosophy to youth. A revival of the CCC has been discussed and rejected. How about a state CCC, aimed at making cities livable?

Dream 2. Give the children ways and means of getting out on their own, a privilege which the automobile, the super highway, the subdivision and the city have all but annihilated. To accomplish this challenges the imagination.

One of the most fertile opportunities, it seems to me, would be to restore the opportunity of bicycling which has been lost because of traffic. With all the money for highways, memorials, expositions, sewage disposal and unemployment, there has not been a single penny that I know of for bike lanes and crossings. Who pays the penalties for this shortsightedness but the ever greedy adult who has demanded the convenience of highways and automobiles? He is the one who now must run his children across town to the scout meeting, the band practice, the swimming meet, the football game, the dance. Children must wait for their parents to get into the mood for a picnic or a hike in the woods before they get a chance to get the scent of freedom that the open road has to offer. . . .

Hiking trails, hostel facilities, and hiking clubs and programs are other op-

portunities for getting children in touch with something besides smog and asphalt. There are a few isolated efforts at this and there should be more. There are plenty of jobs waiting for a new CCC.

Dream 3: It has been common practice to make surveys of recreational use and demand, and to predicate subsequent park and recreational developments on these trends. I believe this is a one-way road to T.V. parlors at every state park, coffee shops at the end of every woods-road, and penned-mallard shooting concessions at every roadside park. I am against these surveys as a basis for planning for two reasons. In the first place, youth is seldom represented in these polls. In the second place, to be conservation-conscious is not to just drift with the tide, but to have some convictions about a way of life. There are plenty of examples where courageous foresight, undimmed by mass desires, has enriched our lives. The state and national parks weren't started as the result of a poll. The Audubon Society, the Forest Service, the concept of the school camp, Boy Scouts and many other movements were brought to fruition not because a statistical study indicated people were doing these things or wanted these things, but because they were inherently good, and valuable in the maintenance of a way of life and an ideal. When we begin basing our total conservation program on surveys of use and demand, the American Dream will become a nightmare.

Dream 4: We should be frank to admit that under the conditions that exist today, conservation facilities in the field of wildlife should not be supported solely, or even primarily by those who fish and hunt. If we persist in adhering to the present formula we may regret it when land is all cut up by subdivisions and developments so that hunting is no longer feasible, and when streams are so motor-boated and polluted that fishing fever fades. Evidently charging hunters and fishermen for licenses, and adding 10 per cent to the cost of their equipment and ammunition has not deterred them from paying their money on the line. Conservation Commissions are shirking their duties, and running into unnecessary resistance as a result of continuing to accept the old formula of hunting and fishing support. As a lecturer for the National Audubon Society, I have been acutely aware of the num-



bers of people interested in birds—people from every field, not just crack-pots and professors, but engineers, architects and businessmen.

Why shouldn't all of us, who are interested in conservation and the outdoors, support it? After all, in Michigan we manage the prairie chicken, but we do not shoot it, and again in Michigan, we have set aside a tract of land to be managed for a dickie-bird, the Kirtland warbler. We publish lists of flowers protected by law, and we set aside tracts of interesting flora, and provide, in public shooting areas the vastly greater and more important leisure time of our children. Is a boy's Saturday of no concern to conservation agencies because he buys no license, pays no excise tax and shoots no game? Whatever the answer to this, there can be no doubt but that the way the boy spends his Saturday is going to have a telling effect on the future of conservation over the country.

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*Reprinted by permission of the Wildlife Management Institute, which published this article as part of the transactions of the Twenty-Fifth North American Wildlife Conference, 1960. The author, whose work has appeared in the September and December, 1963, Bulletins, is currently a lecturer for the National Audubon Society.*

# The Gentle Scholar

By Clarence Cottam

History is replete with examples of great leaders, thinkers, and writers who were cruelly berated by many of their less perceptive and perhaps biased contemporaries. Such has been the case of Dr. Rachel Carson since the publication of her timely, challenging book, *Silent Spring*. Miss Carson died of cancer at her home on April 14, 1964. She was 56.

It is indeed a compliment and a rare achievement when any writer is so skilled that her book stirs Congress and awakens an entrenched, proliferating, governmental bureaucracy. When that book so arouses public opinion that the bureaucracy is forced to take a somewhat objective look at its procedures and policies and alter a predetermined program, then the author's achievement is truly a singular one. With the publication of *Silent Spring* late in 1962, this gentle, sincere and scholarly writer, this scientist and lucid interpreter of science, set off a national struggle between the proponents and opponents of the widespread, if not the almost unlimited, use of stable, wide-spectrum, dangerous chemical pesticides. Miss Carson was the nation's most articulate opponent of this use. She was, perhaps, the more effective because she remained calm and objective and relied on science, logic and documented facts to prove her points.

She emphasized in her writings and addresses that she was not opposed to the wise and moderate use of chemical controls, only to their indiscriminate, widespread use when relatively little was known of their long term and indirect effects upon both man and his environment. She understood ecology and the importance of maintaining an unpolluted environment, agreeing with Jean Rostand that "the obligation to endure gives us the right to know." And she demanded that sound research precede widespread operational control and eradication programs.

Miss Carson appropriately pointed out that it is the public that is being asked to assume the risks that the insect controllers and manufacturers calculate.

She has given indisputable evidence that many of the government's past and largely indiscriminate "eradication" campaigns, such as against the "fire ant," Japanese beetle, and Dutch elm disease, have been quite irresponsible, bureaucratic, and shortsighted. The evidence further shows that: (1) this generation's manipulation and attempted management of nature by government and private industry, through the use



Photograph by Erich Hartmann, Magnum

of drugs, pesticides, and radiation, is not under safe and responsible control; (2) the indirect and total consequences to man and his renewable natural resources from the present widespread and often unrestrained dissemination of poisonous substances into our environment are only vaguely known, and some effects cannot yet even be guessed at, and (3) we have reached the point where the benefit of the doubt should dictate caution, maturity of judgment, and restraint.

Dr. Carson's brilliant writings have aided materially in forcing government to give far more emphasis to biological, cultural, and selective use of less dangerous chemicals in its research and operational control and eradication programs. Her untimely death leaves an irreplaceable void in a society that increasingly needs and is belatedly appreciating her great and unique contribution to the reconciliation of man to his environment. To those who knew her best her unimpeachable character and her warm and helpful friendship were as characteristic of her as were her deeply perceptive understanding of the workings of nature and her unequalled ability to make both the scientist and layman understand this. Because of her, this world will be a far better, safer, and pleasanter place.

*Dr. Cottam is Director of the Welder Wildlife Foundation in Sinton, Texas.*

## "The Silent Spring of Rachel Carson"

On April 3, 1963, the Columbia Broadcasting System's television series "C.B.S. Reports" presented the program "The Silent Spring of Rachel Carson." In it, Miss Carson said:

"We still talk in terms of conquest. We still haven't become mature enough to think of ourselves as only a tiny part of a vast and incredible universe. Man's

attitude toward nature is today critically important simply because we have now acquired a fateful power to alter and destroy nature.

"But man is a part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself. The rains have become an instrument to bring down from the atmosphere the deadly products of atomic

explosions. Water, which is probably our most important natural resource, is now used and re-used with incredible recklessness.

"Now, I truly believe, that we in this generation, must come to terms with nature, and I think we're challenged as mankind has never been challenged before to prove our maturity and our mastery, not of nature, but of ourselves."

Miss Carson, thanks to her remark-

able knack for taking dull scientific facts and translating them into poetical and lyrical prose that enchanted the lay public, had a substantial public image before she rocked the American public and much of the world with "Silent Spring." This was established by three books, "Under the Sea Wind," "The Sea Around Us," and "The Edge of the Sea." . . .

"Silent Spring," four-and-a-half years in preparation and published in September of 1962, hit the affluent chemical industry and the general public with the devastating effect of a Biblical plague of locusts. The title came from an apocalyptic opening chapter, which pictured how an entire area could be destroyed by indiscriminate spraying. . . .

The essence of the debate was: Are pesticides publicly dangerous or aren't they?

Miss Carson's position had been summarized this way:

"Chemicals are the sinister and little-recognized partners of radiation in changing the very nature of the world—the very nature of life.

"Since the mid-nineteen forties, over 200 basic chemicals have been created for use in killing insects, weeds, rodents and other organisms described in the modern vernacular as pests, and they are sold under several thousand different brand names.

"The sprays, dusts and aerosols are now applied almost universally to farms, gardens, forests and homes—non-selective chemicals that have the power to kill every insect, the good and the bad, to still the song of the birds and the leaping of fish in the streams—to coat the leaves with a deadly film and to linger on in soil—all this, though the intended target may be only a few weeds or insects.

"Can anyone believe it is possible to lay down such a barrage of poisons on the surface of the earth without making it unfit for all life? They should not be called 'insecticides' but 'biocides.'"

As the pesticide controversy grew into a national quarrel, support was quick in going to the side of Miss Carson. . . .

Julian Huxley, the British biologist, hailed "Silent Spring" as highlighting the "conflict between the present and future, between immediate and partial interests and the continuing interests of the entire human species."

Prof. H. J. Muller, Nobel Prize-winning geneticist at Indiana University,

(Continued on page 16)

## Howard Zahniser—Wilderness Advocate

Washington, D.C., May 6, 1964—Howard Zahniser, leading advocate of wilderness, died early yesterday morning, The Wilderness Society reported today. At the time of his death, Dr. Zahniser was the executive director of The Wilderness Society and editor of *The Living Wilderness*. Although suffering from a heart ailment, he continued to the end the activity for wilderness preservation that had been so much a part of his life's work. He was 58.

An early advocate of Congressional legislation to establish a national policy and program for protected wilderness, he was prominent in the drafting of the Wilderness Bill in 1955 and 1956, and was one of its leading interpreters.



Photograph by Chase Ltd., Wash., D.C.

Speaking for the staff of The Wilderness Society, Associate Executive Director Stewart Brandborg expressed the "feeling of deepest personal loss of each individual who worked under Dr. Zahniser. His kind and generous spirit pervaded his every undertaking with the staff and membership of the Society, as well as with the Society's many friends and conservation coöperators."

Dr. Zahniser was one of the organizers and early chairmen of the Natural Resources Council of America and contributed to the Council's book, *America's Natural Resources*. He served on the Advisory Committee on Conservation to the Secretary of the Interior, was a director of the Citizens' Committee on Natural Resources, a trustee and Wash-

ington representative of Trustees for conservation to the Encyclopedia Britannica, and a member of the Cosmos Club and National Press Club, among many others. He was president of the Thoreau Society in 1957 and was an honorary vice-president of the Sierra Club. He received his B.A. from Greenville College, Illinois, which awarded him an honorary Doctor of Letters degree in 1957.

[A more comprehensive statement about Howard Zahniser and his extensive contributions to wilderness preservation will be carried in the 1964 Annual *Sierra Club Bulletin*.]

### Compromising the Wilderness

There is a special poignancy in the death of a man on the apparent eve of his attaining the goal for which he had long and devotedly labored. Such was the death of Howard Zahniser, executive director of the Wilderness Society and principal architect of the Wilderness Bill which now, after so many years, seems likely to win approval of Congress in the current session. The purpose of the bill, already approved by the Senate and now pending in the House, is statutory and permanent preservation of some unspoiled remnants of primeval America which are in public hands but under differing—and in many cases insufficient—degrees of governmental protection.

It is useful to remember that only about 8 per cent of the 180 million acres in the national forests is proposed for such protection. These areas are still unspoiled, scenic, magnificently wild. To let the mining industry have free rein to explore and exploit them for another ten years, as is proposed in a "compromise bill" now under consideration, would guarantee their almost certain despoliation. It would be ironic if Howard Zahniser's sudden death were seized upon by the enemies of wilderness preservation to open the way to sabotaging and wrecking a strong, effective bill that by rights should become his lasting monument.

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*Bull Creek Flat  
Humboldt Redwoods State Park  
from The Last Redwoods*

*The Need for a Bold Plan:*

## Saving the Redwoods and the Local Economy

IN AN EARLY APRIL LETTER to Governor Edmund G. Brown of California, the Sierra Club further noted two kinds of consequences that would follow the conservation steps—including the proposed additions to parks—advocated by the club in the redwoods country:

“There is bound to be some disruption of local economy. And it is not fair for people far removed from the redwoods to insist upon their being saved at the expense of local communities. Urban America (and urban California) has both the concentration of wealth and the concentration of the need to get away from the megalopolis. Equity requires that the people who have the money and the need should pay their share.

“There is also bound to be renewed growth of other economic benefits as the visitor-benefit ratio steps up once the program to preserve the additional redwoods is assured. This has been amply demonstrated in Switzerland, as a remote example of what preserved scenery can mean to an economy, and in our own national and state parks.

“The big question is how to handle the lag. The economy based on logging the last of the virgin redwood stands is a short-lived economy. This we can be assured of. Ten or fifteen years and it will be through, with a major dislocation of communities dependent upon that kind of logging. How much better it will be to find means of phasing that activity out now, and phasing into the exploitation of the north coast beauty while there is still enough left! How much better, also, to investigate thoroughly the various ways of achieving this without hardship.

“To preserve a scenic asset so important to the state and nation—indeed to the world—we are well warranted in seeking out essential financial help to retrain the people and retool the industries that long-range planning requires. The only mistake we can make, it seems to me, is to wait too long—and to let destruction of the great resource of unspoiled redwood forests be the real cost of penny-pinching.

“The mail you have been receiving, the editorials, the articles, the wires—all these must reassure you that support awaits out there for a bold plan that can excite the nation’s admiration and support. Could you not, therefore, appoint a special task force of leading Californians who are conservationists to advise you in just this kind of bold plan, who can avoid the pitfalls we almost fell into because we didn’t know how strongly the nation insists that enough be saved? I hope so. I know the Sierra Club is with you in any such attempt you can see your way clear to undertake. And we’ll be just one group of hundreds.”

This letter was written by the club’s executive director, David Brower. A spokesman for the industry challenged it, pointing out that transition would not be needed inasmuch as sustained yield was being practiced in the redwood country. *The Last Redwoods* raises serious questions about how sustained the yield may be, particularly in a state having vast acreages of once-logged land which has never come back to reasonable forest productivity—and also in view of the practice of some lumber companies to cut redwoods and replant Douglas fir. The point of the Brower letter nevertheless remains valid. An industry geared to handling trees so large that mere segments fill a logging truck must soon convert to other technology as the big virgin trees disappear into the mills or are set aside for the futures’ enjoyment.

Governor Brown replied to the club suggestion on June 1.

Dear Dave:

Thank you for your kind letters of March 31 and April 3. Again I congratulate you on the Club’s recent impressive book, “The Last Redwoods.” I am very glad to have copies of the favorable reviews from the *Atlantic Monthly* and *Frontier*.

You have provided a keen and careful analysis of the critical problems involved in the preservation of additional coast redwoods. Your suggestion that I appoint a task force of conservationists to provide guidance in the many critical questions involved in this program is greatly appreciated, and I am giving it careful consideration.

Thank you again for your constructive support and assistance.

Sincerely,  
EDMUND G. BROWN, Governor

The California State Legislature has indicated its active interest in the problems of the redwoods country—particularly those in which freeways and redwoods have come in conflict. In House Resolution No. 272, proposed by Assemblyman Edwin L. Z’Berg, and passed in late May, the Assembly stated with respect to Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park that the Division of Highways and the California Highway Commission is requested “to consider the impact of the proposed ‘bluff’ and ‘beach’ routes on the Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park,” and that unless it can be thoroughly demonstrated that the public interest lies in routing the freeway through the park, “that the routing be outside the park. . . .”

The Assembly resolution further requested that in view of the public interest in this matter, "the California Highway Commission is requested to hold at least one public hearing on these routes in San Francisco or Los Angeles so that the general public is afforded the opportunity to fully understand and express its views on the impact of these routes on Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park."

## Redwood Empire Association Attacks Conservationists

Early in April, 1964, Sierra Club Executive Director David Brower wrote a letter to a number of editorial page editors expressing the club's appreciation of their support of the effort to save redwoods from freeway destruction. In this letter he mentioned the growing sentiment in various parts of California that the autonomy of the Division of Highways should be curtailed, the objective being "to end the advantage the highway-building program has over other public services, such as mass transportation, schools and universities, parks, and resource development." He also noted that freeways are only part of the threat to redwoods—that two other dangers to this unique forest were poor logging practices in adjacent lands that result in redwood-destroying floods, and continued lumbering operations in some of the finest of the remaining stands.

One of the responses to this letter came from Carney Campion, General Manager of the Redwood Empire Association, originally incorporated in 1920 as the Redwood Highway Association. "The Redwood Highway Association is the transportation and economic lifeline of the entire Redwood Empire," Mr. Campion noted at the recent Eureka hearing on the proposed freeway in Prairie Creek State Park. "The California Highway Commission recognized this . . . when in 1959 it designated the Redwood Highway as a part of the State's 12,500-mile system to be constructed as freeways and expressways . . . Some people oppose improvements on the Redwood Highway, but it is difficult to understand their protests when we consider the groves and parks were made possible by access . . ."

Mr. Campion commended the Division of Highways for its thoroughness in carrying out studies on route location in Prairie Creek, for its farsightedness in conceiving the present route as a comparable scenic alternative "such as we enjoy through the Avenue of the Giants," and then he launched into an attack on preservationists:

The first of [the particularly disturbing points] is the calculated campaign centered around the Prairie Creek route relocation and also around a current study of a proposed Redwood National Park, which by inference leads the American public to believe that our *Sequoia sempervirens* is within weeks of being liquidated. The campaigners imply that every last tree standing must be placed in public ownership if future generations are to see them at all. The totally false impression is given that, through wanton destruction, the last of these trees are soon to be logged-off. The deepest guile is being resorted to by the proponents of this theory to accomplish their objective.

The Division of Highways, the Highway Commission, and the integrity of the men who comprise these organizations are maligned when route studies relating to the Redwood Highway through forested areas are undertaken. The Division is depicted as television "bad men" in black hats who wield chain-saws at midnight to deceive and despoil the public. We maintain that the record shows otherwise, and that our highway planners have done a dedicated job of preserving the balance between safe roads and scenic values . . . in measuring "X" number of trees against "X" number of highway fatalities and injuries, we must honestly face the fact that a few more trees can be made expendable. . . .

The second disturbing point, and it dovetails with the one just discussed, is the attack being perpetrated by the same preservationist groups and individuals upon the integrity of the California Highway Commis-

sion and its duly authorized, proven and successful procedures in administering the expenditure of gasoline tax funds for highway purposes. . . .

Mr. Campion then read into the record of the hearing the April, 1964 letter to editorial page editors mentioned earlier. In so doing, Mr. Campion stirred the *San Francisco Chronicle* to editorialize on May 12 that,

Carney J. Campion, general manager of the Redwood Empire Association, an organization which receives a handsome handout from this city's hotel tax funds, has attacked the Sierra Club and its "ultrapreservationist" allies for depicting State highway engineers as "television bad men in black hats who wield chain saws at night to deceive and despoil the public."

If this is the Sierra Club's picture, we find it superbly drawn. It achieves the artistic stature of a master work in the eyes of those San Franciscans who can easily visualize the State's chain saws cutting a swath of ruin through Golden Gate Park and the Panhandle. . . .

## Storm in the Redwoods

(Continued from page 2)

petuity for park purposes; the state became part to the covenant and matched these contributions with public funds, some obtained from park bonds voted by the people of California. These dedicated groves are to be accorded special protection because of the unique agreement between the donors and the State.

The National Tribute Grove, in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, and the Garland Grove and the unspoiled shore and living space of Gold Beach, at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, are by no means included in the word "fringe." No freeway is to disrupt the integrity of a park, but if it should become necessary in going around the park to cut a fringe of trees, then highway funds—not general tax funds—should be used to buy other virgin redwoods adjacent to the park so affected.

**T**HE PUBLIC CAN HELP by assuring Governor Brown of public support as he exerts his leadership in seeing to it that the public trust in redwoods is respected.

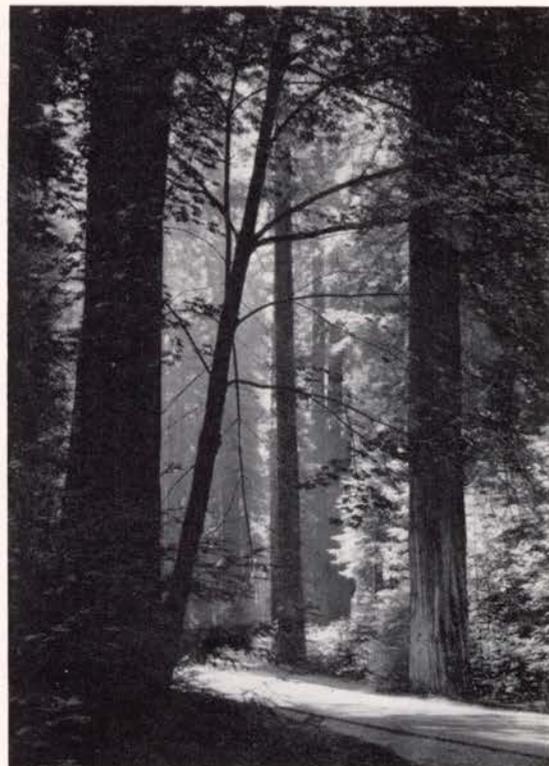
As for the alternate freeway route that the Sierra Club favors to save the redwood parks, see the facing map. The Governor's belief that the East Ridge route would "take a wall of redwoods," was 180° wrong. No redwoods would be taken that are not now privately owned and scheduled for logging before freeway construction would start; moreover, the Sierra Club route is almost entirely logged already.

Nor does the Sierra Club route exceed in steepness the grades approved elsewhere by the highway authorities for U.S. 101 near and in the redwoods. The maximum elevation is not so high as on other sections along the same route where snow, if any, would be more troublesome. The alternates are a little longer and lower gears for the big logging trucks would be required for a slightly longer distance—for the few years in which there will still be big logs to truck.

Governor Brown said on January 28, 1964, "We must be willing to pay the extra cost of bypassing the Redwood parks, leaving them intact for future generations." Highway authorities state that the additional cost of construction to protect the people's investment in these parks would be about \$4.5 million for the extra two or three miles of freeway. If this is the price of preservation, then it's worth every penny.

—DAVID BROWER

*Redwood Highway at Founder's Grove  
Humboldt Redwood State Park.  
Photograph by Philip Hyde  
from The Last Redwoods*



*Sierra Club Policy on . . .*

## The Last Redwoods

By Edgar Wayburn

CALIFORNIA'S last virgin-growth coast redwoods are among the outstanding scenic treasures of our country. Certain groves supposedly protected in parks are threatened both by floods and by freeways. Furthermore, some additional critically needed groves should be established as parks before it is too late.

The coast redwoods once covered nearly two million acres in California. Only 200,000 acres of them remain uncut on private lands, 50,000 in parks. At the current rate of logging, the former may well be gone within the next fifteen years.

### Freeway Threat

The freeway threat to Prairie Creek Redwoods and Jedediah Smith Redwoods state parks has gained nationwide attention in recent months. The dedicated memorial groves, comprising nearly all these two parks, were established with private money contributed by individuals and organizations, all over, usually matched by state funds. Hundreds of newspaper, magazine, radio, and television editorials have expressed opposition to this contemplated breach of trust, that redwood freeways would constitute. Thousands of letters have come in from all parts of the country urging that the redwoods be saved.

The Sierra Club position on this problem as expressed by its Board of Directors on May 2 is:

- (1) Freeways are not compatible with natural parks; they belong outside them.
- (2) There is a public trust in the disposition of lands acquired with private funds.
- (3) Land affected by freeways must be evaluated in terms of its highest public use, both present and future.
- (4) Recognition of the higher values of park lands implies a willingness to pay more for the preservation of those values.

The views of California's Governor Edmund G. Brown seem to be in accord with the club's policy. On May 12 he proposed that in order to get protection of the resource, (1) the Department of Parks and Recreation complete a master plan of the redwood area; (2) a special committee of the Highway and Parks commissions work with the highway planners as route decisions are being made; (3) a further search of alternative routes be made; and (4) that the Division of Highways "defer presenting the issues of route selection to the Highway Commission until these studies and discussions are completed."

At a public hearing, held by the Division of Highways on April 27 in Eureka, on the proposed alternatives at Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, the club's

official statement asserted: "The Sierra Club is not opposed to freeways, but . . . freeways are not—and cannot be—park-oriented highways for the express traffic they are built to carry. . . . Park roads should be designed for slow travel and to provide the opportunity for intimate viewing and enjoyment of the park. . . . the freeway . . . should stay entirely out of Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park. We do not believe that we have to invade our parks for our freeways. We favor a ridge route, east of the ridge crest (see maps on page 11), thus completely avoiding Prairie Creek State Park. We have every confidence in the ability of our highway engineers to construct such a route."

The Sierra Club recognizes the need for improved highways, but believes the public is willing to pay the extra costs to protect and bypass the public's irreplaceable investment in the redwoods.

### State Parks Expanded

The Sierra Club's Directors on May 2 suggested that priority be given for: protection of virgin redwoods still in private ownership in the watersheds of the existing parks; acquisition of cutover and other lands in such watershed drainages, to protect the existing investment; and securing additional lands for recreational

development, to enhance the values of the redwood parks." The club is concerned that freeways should avoid those virgin redwood forests that have not yet been preserved but deserve to be.

On March 27, the club submitted to Governor Brown at his request a suggested Master Plan for acquisition priorities. Condensed, these priorities are:

(1) In *Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park*, the upper Mill Creek watershed is of high priority. Time is of the essence here. The upper Mill Creek watershed, south of the park, contains about 5,000 acres of virgin redwood forest, an extension of the park's National Tribute Grove, and the watershed bears the same relationship to this park that the upper Bull Creek watershed did to Rockefeller Forest. Serious flooding and loss of park redwoods could likewise occur once logging begins, and the club understands that a full-scale lumbering has now begun in Mill Creek.

Immediately north of Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park is a two- to three-mile stretch of privately owned virgin redwood forest. Most visitors to the area assume that they are still within the state park as they drive along this section of U.S. Highway 199. These few hundred garded as the finest and thickest old acres of virgin forest are essential to the

scenic beauty of the park but are in present danger of destruction.

(2) West of and adjacent to *Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park* is the wild Gold Bluffs seashore. As Secretary Udall has written recently, "Here at Prairie Creek and at Del Norte State Park farther north are the two remaining spots in the world where these magnificent old growth redwoods sweep down to meet a wonderful wild stretch of bluff and beach." Only about half of this Gold Bluffs land is within the state park. The logical park would include the complete landscape from the eastern ridge of the Prairie Creek watershed (now generally the park boundary) to the edge of the Pacific.

(3) Van Duzen River virgin redwoods (near Grizzly Creek State Park) should be acquired.

(4) Lands mostly or entirely in second-growth forest should be acquired to protect the watersheds of many smaller redwood parks.

(5) The strip of virgin redwoods along the Avenue-of-the-Giants north of Humboldt Redwoods State Park should be added to the park. The Save-the-Redwoods League and the State of California are already negotiating for parts of this area, particularly the Pepperwood Grove.

### Redwoods National Park

In addition to completing the state park system, a Redwoods National Park should be established. The richest nation on earth as yet preserves none of its finest coast redwoods in a federal park or monument, except for the tiny tract of Muir Woods National Monument, visited by more than half a million people annually.

The club's Directors voted May 2 to urge the United States government to establish a Redwoods National Park.

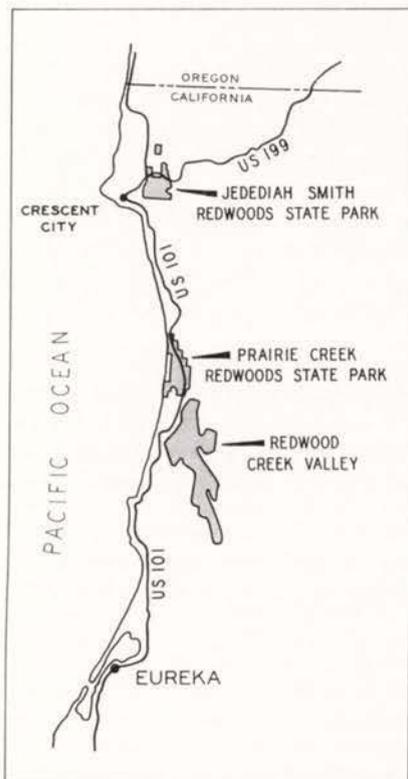
On May 3, *The New York Times* reported: "The world's tallest living thing, a redwood tree soaring 367.8 feet, has been found in California. . . . The second and third tallest have also been discov-

ered in Humboldt County in a grove regarded as the finest and thickest old growth or virgin stand of redwoods. The grove is east of Redwood Creek near Orick.

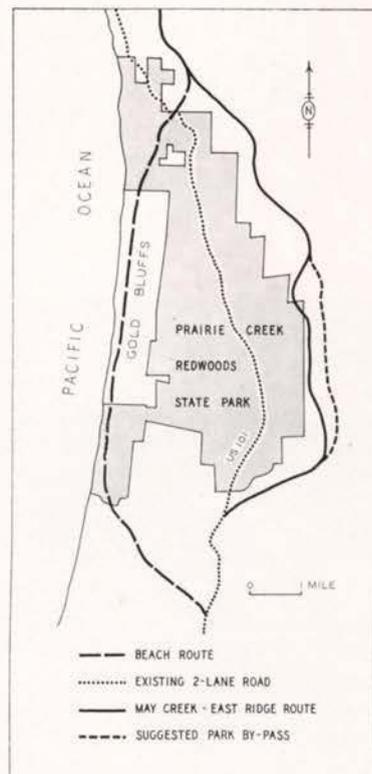
"The National Geographic Society," the *Times* said, "found the trees in a tract it has been trying to purchase as the nucleus for a National Redwood Park."

The club hopes that an adequate area can be purchased and established as a national park and that it will preserve intact an ecological unit of virgin forest worthy of national status. The July *National Geographic Magazine* will dramatically portray our last opportunity, and the preliminary National Park Service study aided by a grant from the National Geographic Society is being completed and should be available soon.

As *The Last Redwoods* points out, the price we will have to pay now to achieve a fraction of what we should have achieved many years ago will be high—some will think it excessively high—for we have waited a long time. But surely the richest nation in the world can afford, say, one ten-thousandth the price of a rocket to the treeless moon to capture and preserve an adequate fragment of a forest wonder that is the last of its kind on earth.



*The Sierra Club's suggested park by-pass route (see map at right) would completely avoid any virgin redwoods that would not be scheduled for logging before freeway construction could take place. Maps by Alan Macdonald*



# Washington Office Report

By William Zimmerman, Jr.

## Legislation

On June 1 and 2, the Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, considered in executive session, the Wilderness Bill (H.R. 9070) introduced by John Saylor of Pennsylvania. As reported out of that session the bill contained an amendment that directed the Secretary of Agriculture to "... identify, set aside and classify for public recreational use an area of approximately three thousand five hundred acres within the San Geronio Wild Area of the San Bernardino National Forest that he finds most suitable for the installation and development of facilities necessary for skiing utilization." Furthermore, the Secretary was empowered to review, within three years, other suitable lands within the Wild Area for preservation and classification as Wilderness.

Another amendment that conservationists generally feel will weaken the bill stated that "... until midnight December 31, 1989, the United States mining laws and all laws pertaining to mineral leasing shall, to the same extent as applicable prior to the effective date of this Act, extend to those lands designated by this Act as 'wilderness areas . . .'"

As the *Bulletin* goes to press, the House Interior Committee has ordered the bill reported out with both the above mentioned amendments retained. One can only guess what course the bill will take on the floor of the House. The Interior Committee will probably ask for a rule from the Rules Committee, thus permitting a floor vote on these amendments. Whatever course the bill does take, I predict, with the danger of eating crow later, that the House will pass it, in one version or another.

In any event, it is highly unlikely that the bill will receive full House attention before the Land and Water Conservation Fund Bill (H.R. 3846) is considered. The fund bill has been given priority both by the administration and by Chairman Wayne Aspinall of the House Interior Committee.

On January 28, 1964, Chairman Aspinall made formal request to the House Rules Committee for a rule on the fund bill so that it might be taken to the floor for action. Finally, on

May 27, the Rules Committee granted a rule that scheduled four hours of open floor debate, a vote to follow the debate. No date, however, was set for the debate. It is unusual for the Committee to consider in detail, as it did here, the provisions of a pending bill and by so doing reserve to itself rather than to the House the right to pass on the merits of the legislation.

## Olympic National Park

At the annual organization meeting of the Sierra Club's Board of Directors, much concern was expressed about the unprecedented "leak" of a preliminary recommendation from a field team of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation favoring an Olympic Highway southward from Neah Bay along the shore of the Pacific. Prompt inquiry in Washington resulted in the recall of most copies of the report, but at least one copy reached a Seattle newspaper, which published the details. Letters of protest went to Washington from the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Sierra Club, from Justice William O. Douglas of the U. S. Supreme Court, and hundreds of other indignant people.

The situation has been reviewed in Washington by the responsible heads of the Bureau. As I write, I have before me a copy of a letter signed by Bureau Director Edward C. Crafts and addressed to Justice Douglas. It is the same as or similar to letters sent to other correspondents. In part the letter reads:

"We feel there is a need for a better and more direct route from Aberdeen to Neah Bay . . . Our final report to the Area Redevelopment Administration (ARA) will recommend improvement of State Route 9C from Aberdeen to its junction with U.S. Highway 101 at Queets and construction of a new road extending from a point on . . . [U.S. 101] . . . north of Forks to Ozette, passing Ozette Lake to the northeast. This new road would connect with a road planned by Clallam County from Ozette north to the Makah Indian Reservation coastal road that, in turn, connects with the town of Neah Bay. This plan, I believe, conforms to your proposal and to that favored by other conservation groups (the Justice should be pleased to be considered a *conservation group*) as a means of providing access to the upper coast of the Olympic Peninsula while still preserving the integrity of the 'Olympic Strip' north of Ruby Beach."

It is not often that reports of field officials are reversed by their superiors in Washington. In the present case Director Crafts and his staff are to be commended for taking a fresh look at a troublesome problem, making a forthright recommendation, and, we hope, laying to rest this particular issue.

## Northern Cascades

The scheduled meeting of the joint Agriculture-Interior Committee was held on June 11 and 12 in Washington, D.C.



*Glacier Peak from North Star Peak  
in the proposed Northern Cascades  
National Park. Photograph by Philip Hyde*

The committee had available the study or technical reports on the resources of the Study Area. In releasing these reports to the public, Director Crafts prefixed to each a word of caution that this release "should not be construed either as approval or disapproval by the Study Team of its contents."

One of the main purposes of the June 11 meeting was to review and evaluate these reports, after which the Committee will need to come to grips with the major questions asked about the Northern Cascades by the two Secretaries.

It seems that the data collected by experts provides the basis for evaluating each resource or group of resources, but it will require the judgment of the Committee to decide, for example, whether the mineral potential of the Study Area, which has produced less than one hundred million dollars of minerals over the years, is more important than the recreation potential projections, which seem to indicate that tourists, sportsmen, campers, hikers, and mere sightseers will in the near future be spending in the area that much money or more each year.

It is important for conservationists to keep in mind that the Study Area comprises 7,000,000 acres extending from the Canadian border to White Pass near Mount Rainier. The proposed Northern Cascades National Park is only a fraction of that — 1,300,000 acres.

*Mineral Resources*—Contrary to some belief, so the report states, the area of the Northern Cascades Mountains has been thoroughly combed by prospectors over a period of nearly a hundred years. There is hardly a ridge or pass that has not at some time been walked over by some prospector. It is highly probable that most of the mineral deposits in the Northern Cascades that can be found easily have already been discovered.

One part of the report reads: "Nothing that is known about the Study Area suggests that it contains a great mining district comparable to Butte, Montana, the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, or Bingham Canyon, Utah. The chances are fair that moderate-sized deposits up to the magnitude of the Holden Mine or the Glacier Peak deposit might be found, undoubtedly many smaller vein deposits might be found, but from past experience it is unlikely that many of these could be operated profitably at present price levels." Nevertheless, elsewhere in the report it is emphasized that "in view of improved techniques it would be unrealistic to assert that new ore bodies cannot be found, or that known ore reserves cannot be increased by exploration." Most of the minerals, copper in

particular, are not distributed evenly in the area, but are concentrated in a broad irregular band along the western slope of the mountains from the northern part of Snohomish County southward to the vicinity of Snoqualmie Pass. The area between that Pass and Mount Rainier National Park is practically barren of ore deposits.

It is commonly known, however, that two copper companies, in particular, are looking for large tonnage of low-grade deposits, hoping to find units of 50 million tons of ore as low as one per cent or even lower in copper. Of 15 metals in the Study Area given detailed consideration, six — copper, molybdenum, gold, lead, mercury, and nickel — ". . . are considered for geologic and other reasons to have a good probability of being produced in significant amounts in the foreseeable future."

*Timber Resources*—Deputy Chief Forester A. W. Greeley, who wrote a foreword to this report, points out that of the 6,300,000 acres in the Study Area, about 2,850,000, or 45%, are "classed as having timber of commercial quality, available for commercial operation," not including timber in national parks, or in Wild, Primitive or Wilderness areas in national forests. The main units of this commercial timber are in the southern half of the Study Area along the eastern side. Much of the acreage on the west and north of Stevens Pass Highway has prime old-growth trees, although in smaller and more scattered units.

*Recreation*—This report is frequently ecstatic in its descriptions of the Study Area, an area "Dominated by the Cascade Mountains, a gargantuan fantasy of peaks, glaciers, canyons and lakes, cloaked with dense rain-drenched forests of fir and hemlock in the west, and with sun drenched forests of mixed conifers and grasslands on the drier east." The American Alpine Club describes 462 named peaks in the area having an elevation of more than 5,000 feet, "a height that does not seem impressive until one realizes that these mountains rise not from high plateaus but from sea level." Sixteen peaks exceed 9,000 feet.

In presenting these extracts and summaries from three of the six reports now available, I have not attempted any evaluation of data or arguments. I have sought merely to present facts and opinions as they have been recorded by the study teams in the field, and as these will confront the joint Departmental committee, later the two Department Secretaries and the administration, and finally the Congress. Inconsistencies and conflicts of interests will need to be reconciled if this marvelous area is to be preserved for its highest and best uses.

## Summer at Clair Tappaan Lodge

Though well known as a winter vacation spot to Sierra Club skiers, Clair Tappaan Lodge should also be remembered as a pleasant place for members to use and enjoy in the summer. Visitors may stay for a few weeks or for only a day or two. Lake Tahoe, Reno, and the surrounding Sierra region are easily accessible from the lodge, which is situated on Donner Summit just off US-40. The area abounds in beautiful lakes, streams, forests, peaks, trails and scenery. Weather is generally mild and pleasant although there are occasional showers.

With a capacity of 142 persons, the lodge offers a modified American plan of lodging and three meals a day, and operates on a cooperative basis, the guests helping with commissary work and housekeeping. It is necessary for members to bring sleeping bags or blankets, towels, toilet articles, changes of clothing, and hiking equipment.

Basic rates are \$5.00 a day for adults, \$3.50 for children 3 to 11 years, and \$1.00 a day for babies; or \$30.00, \$21.00, and \$6.00 respectively for the first week, and \$27.00, \$18.00, and \$6.00 for the second

and subsequent weeks. Since lunch makings are available only at breakfast, visitors starting their stay near mid-day should not plan on receiving lunch at the lodge. There is a slightly higher charge for units of less than one full day.

Transportation is by private car or Greyhound bus. The nearest bus stop is now about three-fourths of a mile from the lodge but it is hoped there will be some form of local transportation available to the public this summer.

For reservations or more information write the lodge manager, Norden, California, or call GARfield 6-3632, area code 916.

*Lyman Lake and Chiwawa Mountain  
in Glacier Peak Wilderness  
Area, Northern Cascades.  
Photograph by Philip Hyde*



## Northern Cascades Study Reports

By J. Michael McCloskey

ON APRIL 17, six of the seven special resource studies being done for the North Cascades Study Team were made public. Reports were released on recreation, timber, water, minerals, range and wildlife values. A report on the general economy of the area is yet to be released.

In the light of the proposals for a Northern Cascades National Park that prompted the study, the report on recreation by the National Park Service was most significant. The Park Service was told merely to apply the six ORRRC recreation land classifications to the seven million-acre Study Area between White Pass and the Canadian border. Although this limited directive did not allow the Park Service to make a specific recommendation for a national park, the Service could identify the recreational values of the area and give some estimate of their importance.

In applying the ORRRC (Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission) classifications, the Park Service found nearly all of the area proposed by conservationists as a Northern Cascades National Park deserving of scenic protection. Specifically, it found that 606,000 acres of the Study Area were characterized by features of remarkable natural wonder (Glacier Peak area; Eldorado area; Mount Baker-Shuksan-Picket area; central Alpine Lakes area; Mount Rainier area); that some 1,637,000 additional acres should be reserved in six large wilderness tracts where mining and grazing would be banned; and that some 2,141,000 acres should be managed primarily for scenic protection

with some roads allowed. Thus the Park Service found that 4,384,000 acres of the seven million acres studied should be managed primarily to protect scenic values. It said only about 3.5 million acres of the Study Area are now being so administered.

The Park Service noted that, "The wild mountain beauty of America culminates in the North Cascades. Compounded of spire and precipice, glacier and tarn, rain forest and . . . glade, with meadow gardens on the heights, this scenery is unsurpassed in the world." The often quoted 1937 Park Service study said that the Northern Cascades are "unquestionably of national park calibre" and that a national park there would "outrank in its scenic, recreational, and wildlife values, any existing national park and any other possibility for such a park within the United States." The new Park Service report states: "the present substudy found that 1937 statement to be a true one. There is no mountain area of the United States so many-splendored as this, or offering a greater diversity of outdoor recreation experience."

INCLUDED in the Park Service report are a number of recommendations for enlarging existing Wilderness areas. The Park Service recommended the following: (1) Expanding the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area by moving the boundaries down-valley at a number of points—three miles along Whitechuck River, two miles along the Suiattle, and five or more miles along the Entiat. It felt the

wilderness values of those entry corridors were predominant and that they should be protected from logging and roads. (2) Including in the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area all of the lakes at its northwest corner. (3) That Cascade Pass should remain roadless and that all of the presently roadless portions of the Stehekin Valley and the upper trough of Lake Chelan should remain in wilderness condition. (4) That the North Cascade Primitive Area be expanded at its southwest corner to include Watson Lake, Anderson Lake, and Anderson Butte, as well as all of the Thornton Lakes. (5) That Black Lake on the southeast margin of the same Primitive Area should be put in the proposed North Cascades Wilderness Area. (6) Establishment of a substantial Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area, with no further extension of the road up Icicle Creek. And (7) that a wilderness type area be established in the southern part of the present Cougar Lakes Limited Area.

The Park Service found that in the Study Area "some recreation resources are already in danger of impairment," and it recommended cooperative action to protect these resources. "Outdoor recreation," it said, "can continue to benefit the local and regional economy at an accelerating rate as increasing population compounds recreational use of the mountains. With the recreational potential of the area realized and its reputation enhanced accordingly, monetary benefits might be as much as 67% higher than otherwise. Significant economic potential rests in the power of the

amenity resources of the North Cascades to attract industry and labor, and thereby capital and desirable income to Washington." The Recreation Report did not, however, specifically consider hunting and fishing.

Reports on other resource values were notable chiefly in looking for gross figures on potential in the Study Area; they showed relatively little resource potential in the area proposed by conservation groups as a Northern Cascades National Park. In its report on timber resources the Forest Service admitted that the best timber stands were not located in the area proposed for park

status, but it argued that the area's small and scattered stands were prime old-growth valuable for plywood production and generally emphasized the importance of timber to the state of Washington. The report on wildlife values showed almost all important hunting areas outside of the proposed park. The report on water did not find a need for any specific project in the area of the proposed park. In the report on minerals there was a difference of opinion between the geologists of the federal Geological Survey and the state Division of Mines and Geology. Federal surveyors were skeptical about the possibility of future

significant mineral discoveries in the Northern Cascades, whereas the state agency was very optimistic about such discoveries. The report on forage floundered between finding a need for more summer pasture and admitting mounting non-use of existing allotments.

The North Cascades Study Team met again on June 11 and 12. It has been reported that the Park Service was instructed to develop a specific proposal for a national park to present at that meeting. The majority of the team desired such a proposal so that the impact of a park could be thoroughly and concretely analyzed.

## Letters

### San Gorgonio Controversy

*In response to our request, Robert Marshall, author of the article, "Over San Gorgonio—A Clash of Viewpoints (Nov. 1963, SCB), wrote the following letter commenting on Mr. Deutsch's charges. (See March-April, 1964, SCB).*

Dear Mr. Kilgore:

In order to appreciate fully the nature and intensity of the San Gorgonio controversy, it is important to understand the approach and value judgments of those who would develop part of the Wild Area.

First, referring to Mr. Deutsch's numbered points:

(1) Anyone would have to agree that cross-country skiers in southern California are "only a handful," but it would also be fair to describe the downhill skiers likewise as "only a handful." The best estimates available indicate that there are about 60,000 skiers in southern California—about three-fourths of one per cent of that area's population.

The Barton Flats Camp Association, members of which serve over 75,000 campers each year, is the only organization representing all of the camps using the San Gorgonio area. From the beginning, it has vigorously opposed all ski resort plans.

(2) It is true that the summits of Mount San Antonio and Mount San Jacinto are not occupied by developments. The summit of San Antonio is about 2½ hours (four miles and 2262 vertical feet) from the ski lifts. To argue that this resort does not affect the summit itself is to ignore the fact that the strains of polkas played at the ski lifts carry to the summit (in summer as well as in winter) and to ignore as well the frequent motorcycle tracks to the top of the mountain. Certainly, Mount San Antonio still offers a valid form of recreation

today, but one far different from that which it provided before there was development on its slopes.

Geographically, the relationships between Mount San Antonio and the Baldy Ski Lifts, and Mount San Jacinto and the present upper terminus of the tramway are almost identical.

(3) I think Mr. Deutsch would be surprised to learn how many people catch fish in the South Fork of the Santa Ana River and other places within the wild area. These streams are stocked.

During the winter of 1962-63, about 3,000 people signed a register placed at South Fork Meadows. It seems unlikely that all but about 50 of these had left their skis at home.

My brief description of snow conditions on Mount San Gorgonio was carefully written, and I will stand by it.

I would like to discuss some of Mr. Deutsch's other points.

It is interesting that during the winter of 1962-63, Rebel Ridge (elevation under 7000 feet) offered skiing continuously for four and one-half months. This was on a small "bunny hill" with artificial snow, but it was a pioneering effort. This last season, five areas had installed snow-making equipment, and one of these areas, Snow Summit, has financed and begun installation of equipment to put 50 acres under artificial snow.

Yet the potentials of artificial snow were not even thought of in 1958 when the State of California determined that southern California had over 300 acres more ski slopes than were needed to meet the demand, and that with other available sites, needs could be met until at least 1980.

I only wish it were possible to expand Wild Areas as easily as Mr. Deutsch assumes. Unfortunately, the area south of the San Gorgonio Wild Area contains a paved

### Board Election

In the annual April Board of Directors election, Martin Litton and Wallace Stegner were elected as new board members, and incumbents Polly Dyer, Jules Eichorn and Richard Leonard were re-elected.

road and "truck trails." The extent to which it is unvisited (I have personally visited it more than once) is due largely to the fact that almost all of it is in a fire closure area.

But what is probably most important is that Mr. Deutsch's discussion of wilderness values follows what I would call the "statistical approach." In other words, an acre is an acre, and a man-day of recreation is a man-day of recreation. When discussing a fine steak and hamburger, I doubt if he would make the same mistake and say that "beef is beef." An example of an error that can result from this approach is the idea that you can do anything you want to a Wild Area without harming wilderness values so long as you don't actually destroy the most popular trail.

The ecology of any area is extremely complicated, and effects of any disturbances usually travel substantial distances, making important though often overlooked changes. The human mind is no less complicated. With the human mind as with an ecology, conditions some distance away as well as those near at hand can make important though often subtle differences. When we talk about "wilderness values," we are usually referring to factors that can produce these differences. The major single resistance to the preservation of wilderness is the influence of those who fail to notice some of these subtle differences.

ROBERT MARSHALL  
Pomona, California

# The Snake

By Ernst Bacon

WANDERING through an Arizona canyon, a man was about to step over a log when he saw curled up behind it a rattlesnake. Reaching for a stick, he advanced on the snake, now coiled to strike.

"It's you or me," he said with menace.

"You make it sound like an equal contest," said the snake, "whereas it's a hundred to one in your favor. You will go home boasting to your children of your heroic victory over a dragon."

"Perhaps so, but I can't afford to take a chance."

S. "What chance? I won't pursue you. All I ask is to get away unharmed."

M. "Nevertheless, I owe it to the next man that comes along, to eliminate your taking him by surprise."

S. "Now you can't seriously mean that. What is the next man to you? Haven't you just finished killing millions of men in the last war?"

M. "That was done on principle."

S. "Wouldn't the respecting of life be

a good working principle too; at least all life that doesn't seriously threaten your own, or that isn't necessary for your sustenance? Now if I invaded your garden at home, you might be justified in doing away with me. But as things are, it is you who are invading *my* garden."

M. "This isn't your garden any more than it is mine. It's a wilderness that men preserve to come to, from time to time, to recover their souls."

S. "And we wild creatures need it in order to survive, body and soul both. What would a wilderness be, if it did not retain a few hazards; snows, storms, cliffs, floods, avalanches, lightning, wild animals and serpents. I am one of those small hazards that keep alive the romance of wilderness. . . . A little danger flavors the safety."

M. "It is true, I hadn't thought of it before."

S. "But for me, you are far too deadly a creature to leave any feeling of romance. You are to me what the plague is to man, or else the atom turned loose.

There is no sport in the prospect of a helpless extermination."

M. "Still, your race seems to survive."

S. "It won't very long. Soon you will domesticate all nature, and then you will see how nature will take its revenge. The ghosts of all the forest gods and the hapless creatures you have extincted will rise and torment you."

M. "And how is that to be?"

S. "Then you will have yourselves alone to reckon with, as is indeed already the case. And what enemy has ever been so deadly?"

At this moment, the forest was suddenly filled with a great roar. No avalanche or peal of thunder, or even earthquake could have roared so long without pausing for breath. Looking up, the man saw a squadron of planes. Bombers, said he to himself, and here I came to get away from it all.

"There," said the snake, "up there's the thing, beside which you are, like me, but the merest worm to be snuffed out."

The man turned to the snake, but it was gone. He regretted he could not acknowledge the lesson only an enemy can teach.

## Rachel Carson

(Continued from page 7)

declared the book was "a smashing indictment that faces up to the disastrous consequences for both nature and man, of the chemical mass warfare that is being waged today indiscriminately against noxious insects, weeds and fungi." . . .

Dr. William S. McCann, professor emeritus of medicine at the University of Rochester Medical School, said, "most critics ignore the real punch of her book. They ignore the evidence that these chemicals are capable of producing genetic effects almost identical with those produced by radiation, and that by adding them together they intensify each other." . . .

Miss Rodell [Marie Rodell was Miss Carson's literary agent.] said . . . that Miss Carson had few materialistic leanings. When Miss Carson found "The Sea Around Us" was a great financial suc-

cess, her first extravagance was the purchase of a very fine binocular-microscope, which she had always wanted. Her second luxury was the summer cottage on the Maine coast. . . .

Miss Carson had two favorite birds, a member of the thrush family called the veery, and the tern, a small, black-capped gull-like bird with swallow-like forked tails.

She once told an interviewer that she was enchanted by the "hunting, mystical call" of the veery, which is found in moist woods and bottomlands from Newfoundland to southern Manitoba, and in mountains to northern Georgia.

But if there were to be reincarnation, she said, she would like to return as a tern, a vigorous and extremely graceful salt-water bird. . . .

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